

Delivering Ministry

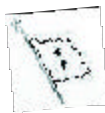


*Chaplain Doug Upton transferring in a PL from USS FORT McHENRY (LSD-43)
to USS JUNEAU (LPD-10) during SOCEX 00-2.*

Volume 5, No. 1

October-November 2000

Chief of Chaplains Endorses Distance		Within The Chaplain Corps Family	8
Support: ChaplainCare	3	Religious Ministry Teams	
Serving With Our Allies	4	in the Seabees	10
Encountering Counterparts	5	Notes from The Detailer	13
Gateway to the Navy:		ChaplainCare User's Guide	15
Ministry at RTC Great Lakes	7	Sixth DOD Islamic Lay Leaders	
		Course Concludes	16



CHIEF OF CHAPLAINS

Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
Washington, D.C. 20350-2000

Dear Colleagues in Ministry,

I am pleased to share with you this edition of *The Navy Chaplain*, filled with articles addressing issues we face as chaplains and Religious Program Specialists, ashore and at sea.

The delivery of ministry—innovative, life-transforming service—to the men and women of our Sea Services and their families, continues to be our greatest opportunity. In these days of shifting paradigms and constantly advancing technology, we must search for innovative and effective ways to deliver this ministry. ChaplainCare, a new system developed by NAVSEA as part of the Distance Support system, is an innovative ministry initiative. While no technology will ever replace “face to face” ministry, ChaplainCare is a ministry multiplier; it can empower and enhance the pastoral care we personally provide to our people.

We often minister to those from other traditions or cultures. While we sometimes emphasize “jointness” (serving with other branches of the U.S. military), we must also learn more about “combined operations” and multinational ministries. “Serving With Our Allies” is a report based on Chaplain Mike Franklin’s Personnel Exchange Program assignment with the Royal Navy in the United Kingdom. Chaplain Ronald Stake’s article, “Encountering Counterparts,” provides us with additional insights based on his experience with militaries in the Pacific Theater.

Taking America’s youth and turning them into U.S. Navy Sailors is the challenging task of Recruit Training Center, Great Lakes, IL. Chaplain Jake Galle shares his ministry to the recruits at the “Gateway to the Navy.” RPCS (SW/AW) Michael Spencer tells us about “Religious Ministry Teams in the Seabees.”

To paraphrase an old British saying, “the sun never sets on the ministry of Navy chaplains.” We have a fulfilling, diverse ministry. It is challenging, but tremendously rewarding. These are exciting times and I offer thanks to, and for, each member of our chaplain/RP team. Continue to lift each other in intercessory prayer. I pray for you and ask that you would pray for me. God bless you!

Faternally.



Vol. 4, No. 6

The Navy Chaplain

A Publication of the Chief of Chaplains
United States Navy
Editor: LCDR Walt East, CHC, USN



October-November 2000

The Navy Chaplain is published bimonthly for the Chief of Chaplains by the Chaplain Resource Branch, 9591 Maryland Avenue, Norfolk, VA 23511-2993. The purpose of *The Navy Chaplain* is to enhance ministry by providing timely information to Active Duty, Reserve and Retired chaplains, Active and Reserve Religious Program Specialists, and Chaplain Candidate Program Officers. Submissions to *The Navy Chaplain* must arrive within 45 days of the next publication and may be sent via email to tnc@crb.chaplain.navy.mil. Pictures to accompany the articles are strongly encouraged.

Chief of Chaplains Endorses Distance Support: ChaplainCare



“Devoted to God and Country, we unite to deliver innovative, life transforming service throughout and beyond the Sea Services.”
Navy Chaplain Corps vision statement

As the Navy moves into the 21st Century with smart ships, we must continually develop and integrate practical religious and spiritual resources that best support Sea Services members and their families’ access to free exercise of religion.

Thanks to the support of Vice Admiral Peter Nanos and the Naval Sea Systems Distance Support Team, the Chief of Chaplains, Rear Admiral Barry C. Black, was able to unveil a new initiative known as “ChaplainCare.”

ChaplainCare is an interactive web site built on the Navy’s Distance Support e-Portal infrastructure that is used to enhance afloat capability 24-hours/day, 7-days/week, 365-days/year. First employed on the Lincoln Battle Group,



as Navy and Marine Corps recruiters, Submariners, and hundreds of Coast Guard personnel and their families who currently serve in remote locations without direct daily Chaplain contact.

ChaplainCare cannot take the place of a person-to-person encounter with a real chaplain team in time of crisis, however it can direct service members to religious information and spiritual resources until the chaplain team arrives.

The timing of this new initiative could not be better. The so-called ‘X’ and ‘Millennial’ generations, which will constitute the vast majority of our personnel over the next 20-years, are so technologically savvy that they now obtain most of their information from the Information Super Highway. ChaplainCare offers today’s Sea Services members a valuable resource by providing them a spiritual source of support in a high tech environment.

Most fleet personnel already know how to use the Distance Support infrastructure to receive a status on a part. Now, with your assistance, the fleet will come to know that within that same fleet-centered system the ChaplainCare web page can be accessed.

Here is how it works: Sailors, Marines, Merchant Mariners and Coast Guard personnel can go directly to www.chaplaincare.navy.mil or they may type www.AnchorDesk.navy.mil in the web site window on their desktop computer to access the Distance Support web page. When the web page appears on the screen, they should click “find a web site,” then click “personnel” or “Chaplain/Spiritual Support”. A new screen will appear for them to click “ChaplainCare”. They will find the site to be both informational and interactive. There is a wealth of information about various religions, state marriage requirements, faith specific devotionals, community service projects, CREDO, and links to many other helping resources (See ChaplainCare User’s Guide). The goal is to give service members spiritual tools that contribute to their professional and personal development and inspire them to take full advantage of every opportunity to serve with integrity and honor.



Distance Support will be a continuous customer service oriented product and will benefit from lessons learned. It includes an e-portal web site www.AnchorDesk.navy.mil, e-mail help@AnchorDesk.navy.mil, a recently developed portal compact disk, and an extensive network of ashore services through the Navy’s Integrated Call Center’s INCONUS telephone “1-877-4-1-TOUCH (86824) and OCONUS DSN 510-4-2-TOUCH.” The goal of Distance Support is to provide personnel deployed throughout the world with customer service “second to none.”

Presently, many units are fortunate to have Chaplains and Religious Program Specialists assigned to their commands; however, almost one-third of the fleet does not. The Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard will use the cutting-edge technology of ChaplainCare to reach these personnel, as well

(continued on page 14)

Serving With Our Allies

By JOC (SCW) LISA M. NOVAK



Chaplain Mike Franklin leads a group discussion with some of the Royal Navy Sailors at HMS Collingwood, where he is stationed as part of the Personal Exchange Program. (photo by Jason Baker)

When the oath of military service is taken, members of the armed forces vow to protect and defend their country. But sometimes that means serving under a flag that is not their own. The Personnel Exchange Program (PEP) allows selected individuals to serve in the armed forces of another country for a tour of duty. While assigned to the foreign military, they are assimilated into the services of their host nation.

Lt. Cmdr. Mike Franklin, a U.S. Navy Chaplain, was selected to serve with the British Navy at HMS Collingwood, a training base in Hampshire, England. In addition to a new command in a new country, Franklin had to integrate into a military system different from any in which he had ever served.

One of the biggest differences he learned early on was that British chaplains have no military rank, and normally wear clerical attire instead of uniforms. It was one difference that he feels actually makes his job easier.

“British chaplains are commissioned by the Queen as chaplains, not officers,” said Franklin. “The rank barrier between a chaplain and a Sailor doesn’t exist. We’re known as ‘Friend and advisor to all.’”

Chaplain Franklin notes that the issues facing British Sailors are “amazingly similar to ours.” But one important

difference is that the British servicemembers can enlist at the age of 16. “Since there are a lot more young people, I sometimes feel like a surrogate parent,” said Franklin. “On the other hand, the British are a bit more reserved. They’re not used to opening up and sharing problems as freely as we are. Also, the divisional officers handle many issues at their level.”

These two factors make the caseload seem a bit lighter, despite the fact that there are only 72 navy chaplains throughout the British fleet, as opposed to almost 900 U.S. Navy chaplains. However, Chaplain Franklin said he gained a new appreciation for Religious Programs Specialists as no such position exists within the British forces.

Chaplain Franklin serves in a team with two other chaplains. The team runs several programs including an all-hands coffee bar and a series of confidence-building exercises. They also teach spiritual and professional development classes such as moral decision making, ethics of war and stress management.

In addition to his duties at HMS Collingwood, part of his assignment with PEP is to experience as many facets of the British navy as he can. He is scheduled to serve with the Royal Marines in the near future and has embarked onboard the aircraft carrier HMS Invincible for a month-long exercise.

(continued on page 13)

ENCOUNTERING COUNTERPARTS: Meeting and Working with Chaplains of Allied Forces

LT Ronald P. Stake, CHC, USNR
with RP3 Michael J. Sandoval, USN
Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Futenma

In the first half of the year 2000, elements of Marine Aircraft Group 36 (MAG 36) deployed for major exercises in the Republic of the Philippines and in the Republic of Korea. In each of these exercises, Balikatan 2000 (Balikatan 00) and Korean Incremental Training Program (KITP 00-2), there came an opportunity for the Religious Ministry Team (RMT) to meet and work with military chaplains of the host countries. The encounters were not the inevitable result of the Regional Engagement Strategy that brought us to these two countries, nor were they the fruit of our careful planning. They came to pass because of curiosity, situational awareness, and vision.

When the Twelve were sent two by two to minister in strange places they probably did not know what to expect. They were armed with simple instructions and they took nothing with them. Nonetheless, they were ready to deal successfully with both welcome and rejection. (Mark 6: 6b-13.) We rarely deal with such stark options. Hoping for good reception and reasonable success, the RMT deploys with complex instructions and long lists of supplies. There are official reports of earlier deployments and people to relate the details of a given place or recurring exercise. We spend hours training or planning, trying to anticipate every eventuality. But sometimes we miss the obvious.

Balikatan 00, Air Force City, Clark Field, Pampanga, Republic of the Philippines

For Balikatan 00 the MAG 36 Chaplain's Office had an early seat on the planning staff of the Marine Aviation Combat Element (ACE). As ACE, MAG 36 personnel would deploy to Clark Field, the former American air base at Angeles City, Pampanga. The ACE commanding officer would be site commander for all U.S. Forces based at Clark Field, approximately 400 Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines. All these would come within the responsibility of the MAG 36/ACE RMT, and they would be guests of the Philippine Air Force, our host at Clark. While a vision for the joint and bilateral exercise crystallized, no one thought about Philippine Air Force chaplains; however, the ACE commander noted his intent:

[T]o engage our Philippine Air Force (PAF) counterparts in the spirit of Balikatan of "shoulder to shoulder." We hope to build relationships for future training opportunities; therefore, our desired end state is friendship with the Philippine military community and a solid foundation of operations and logistics experience for future exercises. (MARFOR ACE LETTER OF INSTRUCTION (LOI) FOR BALIKATAN 00, 3, a. Commander's Intent, 4 Feb 00. [Emphasis added].)

With this vision we arrived in the Philippines 12 February 2000. On 13 February, prompted by the vision, I asked, "Are there any Philippine Air Force chaplains stationed at Clark Field?" The affirmative reply altered the direction and quality of our ministry for Balikatan 00. It also changed the way we envision and prepare for deployment. The next step was to meet these counterparts and discover if they were ready to be engaged "shoulder to shoulder."

The first of two Filipino chaplains we met at Clark Field was Captain Chaplain George Pabalinas, an engaging man, a mainline Protestant (ordained minister of the United Methodist Church) in an Air Force that is, like the country, overwhelmingly Roman Catholic. In addition to

shepherding a congregation of Filipino Air Force families at the small Evangelical chapel, Chaplain Pabalinas is assistant Wing Chaplain for the base and its flying squadrons. Moreover, he has collateral duty as commanding officer of the administrative service support squadron. Western traditions of the military chaplaincy would prohibit such collateral duty in the United States.

Chaplain Pabalinas was eager to meet us and work together for the benefit of both Filipino and American forces. We arranged for his services as Protestant Chaplain to the American Forces at Clark Field, and we scheduled our participation in his Wednesday evening and Sunday chapel services. As a Roman Catholic priest, I capped this relationship by accepting an invitation to address the Evangelical chapel's adult spirituality group on the subject of divorce in the United States. The address coincided with national debate on a bill to legalize divorce in the Philippines.

(continued on next page)



*Chaplain Ron Stake at MAG 36 Chaplain's Office,
MCAS Futenma, Okinawa*

Encountering Counterparts (Con't from page 5)

Chaplain Pabalinas introduced us to his colleague, Captain Father Jerome T. Narvasa, Wing Chaplain at Clark Field, and pastor for the large congregation at the Catholic chapel. One of Fr. Narvasa's first acts was to present a letter of welcome from the Catholic Archbishop of San Fernando, the Most Reverend Paciano B. Aniceto. Hearing of our arrival from a letter we sent from Okinawa, the Archbishop invited us to arrange a community relations project with one of his agencies, *Bahay Pag-ibig*, a home for the destitute abandoned and dying in nearby San Fernando. Several days later some 14 Sailors, Airmen, and Marines visited this "House of Prayer" and spent a good part of the day participating and helping with the daily routine of their home. Archbishop Aniceto and agency director Father Edgar L. Panlilio warmly received us and presented our group a Certificate of Appreciation. Financial support was provided later to the House of Prayer through donations to the Religious Offering Fund at Marine Corps Air Station, Futenma.

Like Chaplain Pabalinas, Fr. Narvasa graciously agreed to work together for the good of the military of both countries encamped at Clark Field. Both Catholic and Protestant worship schedules were made available to the U.S. Forces, and I was rotated into the presiding and preaching schedules at the Catholic chapel. Where once our RMT thought it might be alone in the confusing world of first deployments, we were supported and made more effective through the shared ministry and friendship of two Philippine Air Force chaplains and their staffs. By deployment's end we had more than fulfilled the commander's intent "to engage our Philippine Air Force counterparts."

KITP 00-2, Marine Expeditionary Camp, Pohang, Republic of Korea

Two months after returning to from the Philippines and Balikatan 00, MAG 36 was tasked by III Marine Expeditionary Force to provide the Command Element for the May-June deployment to the Republic of Korea for KITP 00-2. We were to serve as Marine Air-Ground Task Force 36 (MAGTF-36) RMT, responsible for religious ministry and pastoral care for more than 950 U.S. Marines and Sailors at Marine Expeditionary Camp, Pohang (MEC-P). Joining us in this mission were LT Vinson W. Miller, CHC, USNR, and RPSN Jonathan W. Youmans, USN, the RMT of Third Battalion, 3rd Marines, Ground Combat Element for MAGTF-36.

Learning from the experience of Balikatan 00 I inquired early in the planning process about the identity and location of chaplains serving with the Korean Marine Corps at their base near Pohang. Marines at this base were the forces with whom the bilateral exercise would be conducted. The Korean chaplains would be our counterparts. Despite language and cultural divides, we hoped to be able to work with them as partners in ministry. Our hopes did not work out. Identifying and locating the Korean chaplains proved a challenge. We had to wait until our arrival at MEC-P before a serious search for them could begin.

We quickly learned that all military-to-military contacts, including those between chaplains, had to be initiated through the American liaison officer assigned to Pohang by Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Korea. This officer worked with a Korean counterpart to approve or frustrate all requests. Our desire to meet with the Korean chaplains was

referred to these gentlemen by the MAGTF-36 operations officer. A week after arrival in country we received the reply. We had an appointment to visit the senior Korean chaplain the next day.

The meeting with LCDR Chaplain Park Dong Up, division chaplain for Korean Marines based at Pohang, went well. Thanks to Korean and U.S. interpreters our conversation flowed smoothly, and we learned much about the Korean chaplaincy. There are seven houses of worship on the base: a Buddhist temple, a Catholic chapel, and five Protestant chapels. Five chap-

lains (a Buddhist monk, a Roman Catholic priest, and three Protestant ministers) serve about 10,000 Marines and Sailors, as well as family members who reside in base housing. We were given a tour of four chapels (including Buddhist and Catholic) and introduced to a junior chaplain who, like Chaplain Park, was an ordained minister of the Korean Presbyterian Church. We never met the Catholic chaplain. He was responding to pastoral needs at the time of our visit, and we were unable to contact him later. At the end of our meeting we agreed U.S. Marines were welcome to attend services at Korean chapels the following weekend. The next day we heard through the MAGTF-36 operations officer the Korean liaison officer required a formal plan for our personnel to attend chapel on the Korean base. A minimum of 10 and maximum of 20 were welcome to worship at the division chapel. They were to arrive together at a precise time and



RP3 Sandoval and CPL Kim of Korean Marines.

(continued on page 12)

Gateway to the Navy: Ministry at RTC Great Lakes

LCDR J. A. Galle, CHC, USN



After a Fleet Marine Force tour, I thought no other billet could possibly be as challenging or rewarding. I was to find out that I was wrong! Recruit Training Command (RTC)

is the Navy's only boot camp and the largest boot camp of any of the services. Each year 52,000 recruits pass through RTC. During a three-year tour at RTC, a chaplain has the potential to impact one third of the entire fleet!

The challenges at RTC are many. The sheer number of faith groups represented is staggering. On any weekend, we have 21 religious services to allow recruits to practice their constitutionally guaranteed rights. Chaplains are about access and we must ensure that every recruit has an opportunity to worship.

The opportunity to have full-orbed ministry experiences abound. There is the chance to do worship services for hundreds of those who attend the Protestant or Catholic service. There are also special worship services for the recruits that work in the galley and those detained in the pre-trial confinement facility. For some, this is the first time they have ever attended any religious service. Recruits do make life-changing faith commitments in boot camp.

One of the first impressions made by recruits is in chapel. Chapels are often called a "sanctuary" but that term takes on new meaning at RTC. Chapel is one of the few places where Recruit Division Commanders (RDCs) cannot "hassle" the recruits. Chapel is a safe place. The first Saturday here, all recruits are marched to the chapel for religious services. If a recruit's faith is not represented, they are allowed to use the Meditation room. That same week a RP and a chaplain give recruits a brief. Topics covered include: how to make an appointment to see a chaplain, AMCROSS msgs, teamwork, Core Values, as well as a question and answer session.

Throughout their nine weeks of training, recruits are given Sunday mornings to prep their uniforms, write letters home or attend chapel. To attend chapel requires a sacrifice of time, as Sunday afternoon inspections come and recruits need to be prepared.

There are a total of sixteen barracks, called ships, with twelve compartments in each. Ships 1 - 14 are for recruits who are training and Ship 15 is for recruits who have been injured and are recovering (Recruit Convalescent Unit or RCU). Ship 16 is for those being separated, or those awaiting orders following boot camp (Temporary Holding Unit or THU).

Each week during the evenings, chaplains visit their assigned ships. These visits are tremendous opportunities to interact with recruits. Time is at a premium, with ten minutes per compartment as the rule. During that time we may share a



Chaplain Galle visiting recruits in their barracks

story that displays one of the Navy's core values, or a virtue, and then allow time to pray for the division. Upon your first visit to the division, you often sense the fear in the recruits. They are wearing Navy sweats (called "Smurf suits"). The chaplain has the opportunity to bring a calming effect to the entire division. As the weeks progress, the recruits gain confidence in their ability to think, act and react under pressure. Each visit to the compartment is a teachable moment. By the chaplain's last visit to the division, before they depart, a bond has been forged. Many a sailor in the fleet can remember his or her chaplain from boot camp. This is a humbling reminder of what God can do through a godly, willing, and available chaplain.

In the seventh week recruits go through "Battle Stations," a twelve-hour, all-night evolution designed to test them in many different areas. A chaplain who will run Battle Stations with one of her/his divisions can make a great impact upon these recruits. The presence of the chaplain gives hope to the recruits at 3 AM when they are tired and want to quit. At the

(continued on page 12)

Within the Chaplain Corps Family



RP2(SW) Glenn Tamura (COMPHIBRON ELEVEN) being awarded his Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist pin 13 September in the war room onboard USS ESSEX (LHD-2).

IN MEMORIAM

Harry F. Caiazzo, father of CAPT Greg Caiazzo,
CHC, USN, 11691 SE 174 LP, Summerfield, FL 34491

Judy Latty, wife of CAPT Allan Latty, CHC, USN
(Ret), 4535 East Farmdale Circle, Mesa, AZ 85206

Donna McLaughlin, wife of LCDR Jose E.
McLaughlin, CHC, USN(Ret), 19 Corte Rivera Lake
Elsinore, CA 92532

RP2 Joseph M. Mondrey, survived by his wife
Erline Mondrey, 4853 Wiltsie Way, San Diego, CA 92126

Phyllis A. Schultz, wife of CAPT Melvin Ray
Schultz, CHC, USNR(Ret), 6212 Craigmont Road,
Catonsville, MD 21228

Susan K. Schumacher, daughter of LCDR G. Bruce
Schumacher, CHC, USN(Ret), 11371 Lorena Lane, El
Cajon, CA 92020

ACHIEVEMENTS

Legion of Merit



CAPT Thomas G. Giuntoli
CINCUSNAVEUR

CAPT Alan N. Keiran, CHC, USN
Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune

CAPT Gene P. Theriot, CHC, USN
Marine Forces Reserve, New Orleans

Meritorious Service Medal



CAPT Julia T. Cadenhead, CHC, USN
CNET, Pensacola

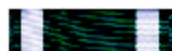
CDR Henry W. Hensley
NAS Keflavik, Iceland

CDR David P. Remy, CHC, USN
Naval District Washington, D.C.

CDR Lawrence J. Russo, CHC, USNR
SUBASE New London

CDR Mitchell Schranz, CHC, USN
MCAS Futenma
3rd FSSG

Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal



LT Marc A. McDowell
Naval Hospital, Okinawa, Japan

LT Michael S. Sexton, CHC, USNR
Marine Aircraft Group 39, 3rd MAW

Air Force Commendation Medal



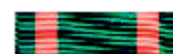
LT Ronald P. Stake, CHC, USNR
MAG 36

Army Commendation Medal



LCDR Bruce C. Maxwell
Marine Corps Air Station, New River

Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal



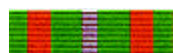
LT Frederick A. McGuffin, CHC, USNR
USS PHILIPPINE SEA (CG 58)

LT Thomas Taylor, CHC, USNR
Fleet Hospital Great Lakes, DET 16

RP2(SW) Robert Nelson
USS SAN JACINTO (CG -56)

RP3 Michael J. Sandoval, USN
MAG 36

Coast Guard Achievement Medal



LCDR Eric L. Darrow, CHC, USNR
Coast Guard Group, Charleston, SC

Fleet Marine Force Ribbon



RP3 Michael J. Sandoval, USN
MAG 36

Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist



RP2 (SW) Robert Nelson
USS San Jacinto (CG-56)

RP2(SW) Glenn Tamura
COMPHIBRON Eleven

Witherspoon Chaplain's Award

CDR Mitchell Schranz, CHC, USN
MCAS Futenma
3rd FSSG

Religious Ministry Teams in the Seabees

BY RPCS (SW/AW) M. D. SPENCER, U.S. NAVY

The proud history of the Seabees as the military construction arm of the U. S. Navy dates to 1942. The first Seabees were civilian construction workers, nearly 200,000 of the nation's master craftsmen and most skilled workers, who enlisted early in World War II to build for the Navy in the Pacific Theater and in Europe. The work done by the Seabees was nothing short of incredible. Using brains, brawn, blood and their "Can Do" spirit, they hacked at jungle growth and blasted coral and literally paved the road to victory for the allies.

The Seabee story did not end with V-J Day. Mobile Construction Battalions continued to build and fight. At one time there were nearly 25,000 sons of World War II Seabees in



Vietnam building camps for America's armed forces, repairing roads, bridges, and airstrips. Seabees were among the first troops to be withdrawn from Vietnam to be put to work at Navy and Marine Corps stations around the world, which had been neglected because of the higher priority of Vietnam. Over the years, numerous chapel facilities around the globe have benefited from their work.

On 17 August, 1990, ten days after the commencement of Operation Desert Shield, the first Seabees arrived in Saudi Arabia. By 18 October 1990, the entire mobilization of Seabees was complete and encompassed 2,410 Seabees, 1,131 pieces of heavy equipment, and 12,000 short tons of materials.

In peacetime, they have provided recovery assistance to hurricane victims on many occasions. Some of the most devastating hurricanes where Seabees provided assistance are: Hurricane Camille (1969) Gulfport, MS; Hurricane Andrew (1992) Homestead, FL; Hurricane Georges (1999) Puerto Rico & Gulfport, MS; and Hurricane Mitch (1999) Honduras.

Seabees have also been vital in support of U.S. humanitarian efforts. Recently the Seabees were involved in supporting efforts in Somalia during Operation Restore Hope (1992-1993). In 1994, they were again called on to assist in Haitian

Relief efforts at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. And, on Christmas day 1995, Seabees arrived in Croatia to support the Army by building camps as part of Operation Joint Endeavor, the peacekeeping effort in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina. Presently, we have Seabees working in and around Kosovo supporting joint forces in peacekeeping efforts.

Today, Seabees have a about 10,000 active duty and 12,300 reserve personnel. There are eight active Seabee Battalions. Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Gulfport, MS is home to the four active Atlantic Fleet Naval Mobile Construction Battalions (NMCBs), and NCBC Port Hueneme, CA is home to the four Pacific NMCBs. The battalions work on a fast and furious deployment cycle. After seven months in homeport training, conducting field exercises and gearing up to deploy, they rotate to the following deployment sites: Guam, Okinawa, Puerto Rico and Rota, Spain.

The homeport training is particularly valuable for the battalion Religious Ministry Team (RMT). They fully integrate them selves into the NCBC Chapel program learning the day-to-day operations of a large ashore religious program. More importantly, they receive training in all aspects of deploying to the field with Seabees. This includes communications, first aid, and chemical, biological & radiological training to name a few. The RP qualifies in use of the M-16 Service Rifle and 9mm Pistol. The homeport cycle concludes with the RMT rehearsing all they have learned in a 2-week field exercise with the battalion.

Chaplains serve alongside Seabee warriors. Currently, there is a chaplain serving in each of the eight battalions, and two at each Center. The role of Chaplains in Seabee units



cannot be underestimated. Their presence has always been of the utmost importance in assisting personnel with spiritual needs, and maintaining unit morale and readiness. In 1979, Religious Program Specialists joined Chaplains in Seabee units, thus completing the RMT in the Naval Construction

(continued on page 11)

Seabees (Con't from page 10)

Force (NCF). Due to the intense combat environment, where our Seabee RMTs could at any time be called to serve, a decision was recently made to assign the Navy Enlisted Classification Code 2401 to all Seabee Battalion RP billets. In the future all RPs reporting to Seabee battalions without Fleet Marine Force training will attend Chaplain/Religious Program Specialist Expeditionary Skills Training (CREST). This will greatly enhance the quality of ministry the RMT provides to our Seabees in the field. While on deployment and not actually in the field, the battalion RMTs are charged with not only day-to-day religious program ministries, but also running a full-scale library at the Base Camps, which provide our battalion RMTs the professional library training they need.

Since reporting to the Atlantic Fleet Seabee Base in Gulfport, I have found duty with the Seabees to be very challenging and rewarding. I have had the joy of working with each battalion RMT to ensure their readiness to deploy. It has been even more encouraging to watch several of our battalion RPs qualify as an Enlisted Seabee Combat Warfare Specialist. At the risk of sounding like the "put in for my outfit" section of our quarterly "Link" bulletin, I would highly recommend duty with the "bees" to any Chaplain or RP. I am proud to say "We Build, We Fight, Can do."



RPCS (SW/AW) M. D. Spencer



What Can You Add to the Story?

WRITING CONTESTS

sponsored by **The Navy Chaplain Foundation, Inc.**

Contests are open to all persons.

Contest A (Historical)

Topic: Pertaining to the history of chaplains in the United States Navy. (May be an account of a Navy chaplain, including his or her influence in a unit of the Sea Services (Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Merchant Marine); an estimate of a religious program in a command of the Sea Services; an operation in which a chaplain or Religious Program Specialist (or Chaplain's Clerk) figured prominently; or other topic dealing with the significance (or lack thereof) of a Navy chaplain.)

Length: Not less than 3,000 words.

Prizes: \$1,000 for the best article; \$500 for the next best.

Contest B (Inspirational)

Topic: An account of a religious or spiritual experience that took place in one of the Sea Services during the Korean Conflict (1950-1953) or an event or development that generated out of an experience with or by a chaplain during that period. Entries may be based on anecdotes, including those that strike a humorous chord.

Length: Not less than 1,000 words.

Prizes: \$500 for the best article and two awards of \$250 each for the runners-up.

Requirements

Typed or word-processed in hard copy, double-spaced, on paper 8 ½" by 11" or on disk or CD-ROM.

Articles submitted must be original material and not have been published previously elsewhere. All articles become the exclusive property of The Navy Chaplain Foundation and may be published by it in a medium of the Foundation.

*Articles will be adjudged by a three-person committee appointed by the Board of Trustees of the Foundation. **Entries must be submitted by January 15, 2001.** Notification of the authors of the winning articles will be made by March 15, 2001.*

Articles must be submitted to The Navy Chaplain Foundation, Post Office Box 7101, Arlington, VA, 22207. Name of the author, home address, telephone number (or other access listing), together with his or her Social Security Number and a brief description of the author's identity must accompany the article. Authors should indicate which contest (A or B) they are entering. (They may enter one or both, but not both with the same article.)

Gateway to the Navy (Con't from page 7)

conclusion of Battle Stations, the division takes off their "Recruit" ball cap and are given ball caps that say "Navy" by their Recruit Division Commanders. This is a significant accomplishment and an emotional moment as well.

Ministry at RTC is not solely to the recruits. The staff is under much pressure to turn out a "quality product." The Recruit Division Commanders are the unsung heroes. They are tasked with turning civilians into sailors in a mere nine weeks. The recruits bring more "baggage" than they carry in their hands. Personal problems, legal issues, health concerns, tragic family upbringing issues are all dropped at the feet of the RDC. A chaplain who is sensitive to the demands placed upon the RDC will be perceived as an ally, not as an adversary.

Camaraderie is necessary for ministry at RTC. With eight chaplains assigned there are few places where you may work as closely and cooperatively with so many chaplains. When you begin to become frustrated with the counseling load for the morning, there is a chaplain next door who will help you to regain your focus and find your sense of humor once again.

As might be expected, the ministry here is tremendously rewarding. In December 1999, the worst possible time of the year, a new division had formed. Because this was a division of non-high school graduates, they would be provided extra instruction to help them earn their GED. The combination of extra instruction, coupled with Christmas and a New Year that ushered in a new millennium took a toll upon the division. Many of these recruits had already established a pattern of "quitting"; school, jobs and relationships. The division slowly came together and I enjoyed each weekly visit to the ship. Many of them approached me Sundays at the Chapel. Running Battle Stations with them was a long, cold night. However, the look on their faces when they received their Navy ball caps was priceless. A week after they left, their RDC presented me with their division pennant. That pennant is prominently displayed on my wall. It means as much to me as any other award I have.

It is unique experiences like this that make ministry in the sea services worthwhile. Who knows, one of those recruits forming up may be a future Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy?

Encountering Counterparts (Con't from page 6)

accept formal welcome and special seating. Lack of transport and weekend operations forced us to decline the invitation.

Three days after meeting Chaplain Park we learned the Buddhist chaplain, LCDR Kang Bo Sung, desired to meet us. The next day we spent two hours conversing about chaplaincy in both our services, discovering we shared from different spiritual traditions a common calling to ministry and pastoral care. It was while speaking with Chaplain Kang that I became aware of the structural differences that continued to separate us.

The military officers we met in Korea were constrained by more protocol and formality than U.S. or Filipino counterparts. Where we might take the initiative to welcome the visiting chaplain of an allied force, they were unable to make such a move without the intervention of liaison officers. Veterans of compulsory military service in youth, Korean chaplains have a different relation-



Chaplain Stake and RP3 Sandoval with Korean Chaplain, Kang Bo Sung.

ship to the armed forces of their country than their contemporary counterparts in the U.S. Language and cultural differences alone would not have prevented us from working well together if we were given the proper opportunity and support. We learned much from the encounter, and we found a basis for interaction from which to encourage and build a more cooperative and common enterprise. For the immediate future, however, the initiative is ours.

Postscript

In relating our recent experiences in the Philippines and in South Korea I hope to spark consideration of purposeful encounters with the chaplains of allied forces when we participate in bilateral and multilateral exercises. I believe there is value in such encounters whenever we are engaged or stationed abroad. For some this is a lesson learned long ago. For others, it is an idea not yet appearing on the checklist. Perhaps it is the idea most needed for the next deployment.

Notes from The Detailer

BY CAPT T. CHARLES CARTER, USN



Preparing yourself for future service in the Chaplain Corps is a dual responsibility between you and the detailer. We trust that you desire assignments that will prepare you to fill a variety of billets at the senior levels of leadership. We in turn want to work with you within the detailing constraints to get you to those assignments. We have a dual responsibility, first to you as an individual to work with you to meet your needs, personal and professional. But we also have a responsibility to the institution to insure the Navy has leaders capable of filling positions of leadership at the highest levels. That means we may push you toward certain billets at the LT/LCDR/CDR levels that you personally would not include in your preferences.

As we detail individuals at the CDR/CAPT grades, we discover that some chaplains have not had the requisite experience at the junior grades that would prepare them for certain assignments at the senior grades. That limits the individual, but also means that the Chaplain Corps may not be getting the strong leadership it needs in certain areas as well.

For example, we may need a Captain at a Force level job such as SURFPAC or LANT. If a chaplain asking for that job

has not been to sea in 10-12 years, I will recommend against sending that person to the Force billet. Instead, I am looking for someone with more recent sea time, and hopefully in the theater that he/she will be working. Or we need a Captain for a senior level Coast Guard job. We may have difficulty finding one because of the few number of chaplains that serve with the Coast Guard.

I encourage you to be intentional in your career decisions. Yes, we need you to be willing to go where needed; thankfully, most of you are. But look at where you want to be 2-4 tours from now. What do you need to do to be prepared for that assignment? Education (subspecialty? JPME?), experience, etc. are items that can factor into the assignment. Prepare yourself. Talk with mentor(s), peers, those who have held assignments you are interested in. Get the big picture so that when you call us you are ready to discuss intelligently your next assignment. Be flexible. What you need may not be available at your PRD. Perhaps you'll have to wait. But at least you'll be thinking about your future in the Corps and your part in providing the best religious ministry to God's people.

Serving With Our Allies (Con't from page 4)

"The British sailors seem a bit more relaxed onboard ship than we do, yet they still maintain a necessary level of professionalism at sea," Franklin explained, noting that this is in keeping with his overall observations on the British attitudes toward work.

"Americans seem to be more concerned with the accumulation of material wealth, whereas the British are more serious about their time off from work and their quality of life," he said. "They don't generally own big houses or big cars, but they enjoy seven weeks of vacation per year. It seems to me that the Americans live to work, while the British work to live."

Chaplain Franklin said he enjoyed the time he's spent with the British troops and serving with the Royal Navy. He started his PEP tour in June 1999, and said he was excited about the prospect of living in another country.

"I enjoy being part of another culture," said the Anderson, S.C. native, who occasionally volunteers at local churches. "Being an American here is a bit of a novelty."

While his American accent may stand out, Chaplain Franklin knows the importance of PEP in bringing people together. Even though he may be serving under another flag, unity is the common goal.

"We had an American Independence Day celebration on July 4th in the wardroom, which I thought a bit odd. But the celebration included discussions on the Revolutionary War, and relations between our countries since World War II.

"It was educational and great fun at the same time. The British are our closest allies, and the exchange program lets us see how each of us does business. It's a great opportunity to maintain our ties and exchange ideas."

The CRB has received a request from the curator of the CMTE Ruizsainz Military Museum in Santiago Chile. Dr. Jesse Ruiz would like to create a display on U.S. Navy Chaplains and requests a uniform with cover. For more info, please contact the TNC editor at tnc@crb.chaplain.navy.mil.

Chaplain Care (Con't from page 3)

The interactive component of ChaplainCare is the e-mail feature. If service members cannot find the information they need, they simply click on "ASK a question or request information" and a pre-addressed e-mail screen will appear automatically. After typing their question and clicking 'send,' they will receive a response within 24 hours.

If a service member cannot get in touch with their chaplain team and they have an urgent need or a special need, they can dial 1-877-4-1-TOUCH to reach the Integrated Call Center (ICC) in Norfolk, Virginia. These trained ICC professionals (mostly retired senior enlisted personnel) ensure the caller receives the support requested and tracks the request until it is completed. The ChaplainCare Integrated Process Team (IPT) is in the process of building a pool of pastoral support that uses active and reserve chaplains in various time zones around the world to respond immediately to crisis calls placed to the ICC.

This is a work in progress; consequently your support in raising the awareness of ChaplainCare among our Sea Services members is critical. Please use every available means to help market this user-friendly resource to all. Please take a few minutes to surf the ChaplainCare web site and then click on "PROVIDE us feedback about this site".

ChaplainCare Integrated Process Team:

CAPT Steve Epperson, CAPT Jane Vieira, CDR Shelia Robertson, CDR Jim Fisher, LT Cory Cathcart, RPCM Isaac Matthews, RPCS Steve Jackson and the staff of NAVSEALOGCOM.



CHAPLAINCARE SUPPORTS CURRENT AND FUTURE READINESS

"Devoted to God and Country, we unite and deliver innovative, life transforming service throughout and beyond the Sea Services."



- ★ **Supports operational readiness by expanding access to chaplain support and religious information any time, anywhere**
- ★ **Promotes spiritual readiness and the "free exercise of religion"**
- ★ **Expands religious ministry support to under-served and remote units**

ChaplainCare User's Guide

ACCESS ADDRESS: www.ChaplainCare.navy.mil or www.AnchorDesk.navy.mil

INTERACTIVE CHOICES:

ASK A QUESTION OR RECEIVE INFORMATION - Leads to a pre-addressed email where you can receive a response within 24 hours.

TALK TO A CHAPLAIN - Leads you to a toll free number to the Navy's Integrated Call Center, Norfolk, VA (1-877-41-TOUCH or OCONUS DSN: 510-42-TOUCH) where you will be connected to a Chaplain-on-Call

PROVIDE US FEEDBACK ABOUT THIS SITE - Leads to a pre-addressed email where you can share your thoughts on how we can improve the ChaplainCare site.

INFORMATIONAL CHOICES:

DEVOTIONS:

Top: Links to 18 Daily Devotions (including one in Spanish)

Bottom: Over 120 Devotions written by Navy Chaplains

PERSONAL PRAYER: 78 prayers designed to address various feeling states and life occasions

SELF-HELP: Information about various relationship and life issues.

ABOUT VARIOUS FAITHS:

Top: Synopsis of 22 religions.

Bottom: Links to web sites on over 400 other faith groups

Click on "Christianity" and you will open to another page:

Top: A synopsis of 26 faith groups, beliefs and practices (most written by the denominations themselves)

Bottom: Links to the official web sites of 26 faith groups

Far Bottom: Links to over 400 other faith groups

WEDDINGS: Frequently asked questions about Navy weddings.

Bottom: link to a wedding web site with information about marriage licenses, wedding services, wedding etiquette, and a variety of other topics.

CREDO CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

Web sites and schedules for all CREDO Centers

COMMUNITY SERVICES PROJECTS: Information about Project Good Neighbor and other Navy Flagship community service projects

QUALITY OF LIFE MALL

Link to the official web site of CNO's LIFELines

NAVY-MARINE CORPS RELIEF

Link to the official web site of NMCRS

AMERICAN RED CROSS

Link to the official web site of ARC

ChaplainCare IPT: CAPT Steve Epperson, CAPT Jane Vieira, CDR Shelia Robertson, CDR Jim Fisher, LT Cory Cathcart, RPCM Isaac Matthews, RPCS Steve Jackson and the staff of NAVSEALOGCOM.

SIXTH DOD ISLAMIC LAY LEADERS COURSE CONCLUDES

By LT Youssef H. Aboul-Enein, Naval Hospital Great Lakes PAO

Over a dozen Senior Enlisted personnel and Officers from the military services traveled to the Institute of Islamic and Arabic Sciences in America (Falls Church, VA) to undergo 70 hours of intense training to become certified Islamic Lay Leaders. In a sign of increased diversity within our military, these new graduates will be a resource on Islamic issues to their respective commands, base chaplains and commanders. Apart from hours devoted to learning Arabic, classes focused on Islamic Law, community outreach, and methods of working with the military chain of command to accommodate the practices of Muslim Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Airmen. They have also been trained to conduct Friday Prayers on-base eliminating the need for personnel to search for the closest Mosque to hold the Muslim Sabbath. "These men and women have been empowered to become advocates of Muslims in uniform," said Mr. Qaseem Uqdah, the Defense Department Islamic Endorsing Agent.

Among the new graduating lay leaders and junior members of the class was Specialist Recep Aksan, US Army ~~who'll be providing lay leadership to the 3~~ Infantry Division (Mechanized) at Fort Stewart, Georgia. Joining him were Navy Petty Officers and an Officer from Naval Hospital Pensacola, Florida, Naval Hospital Great Lakes, Illinois and Naval Medical Center Bethesda, Maryland. TSGT Terrence Ali, USAF flew from Anderson AFB in Guam to attend the course. For more information on where to find the nearest Islamic Lay Leader or Chaplain or for those interested in becoming a Muslim Lay Leader or Chaplain call Mr. Qaseem Uqdah at (540)-710-6385. These Lay Leaders are also a vital resource for those Commanders deploying to the Muslim world. They can sensitize forces to Islamic heritage, culture and customs.

The Navy Chaplain

Department of the Navy	Phone: (757) 444-7665
Chaplain Resource Branch	DSN: 564-7665
9591 Maryland Avenue	fax: (757) 445-1006
Norfolk, VA 23511-2993	e-mail: tnc@crb.chaplain.navy.mil
http://www.chaplain.navy.mil	

